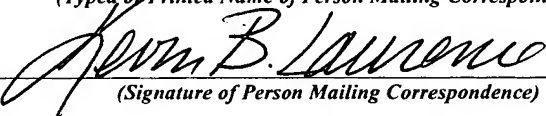


<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)</b>			Docket No. 11502/26	
Applicant(s): Blatter				
Application No. 10/624,315	Filing Date July 21, 2003	Examiner Leslie R. Deak	Customer No. 32642	Group Art Unit 3761
Invention: <b>APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS</b>				
I hereby certify that the following correspondence: <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"><b>Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (including the items listed below)</b></div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Identify type of correspondence)</i></p> <p>is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>APRIL 27, 2006</u> <i>(Date)</i></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"><div style="display: inline-block; text-align: left;"><b>Kevin B. Laurence</b> <i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i>  <i>(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i> <b>EV699360745US</b> <i>("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)</i></div></div>				
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</b></p> <p>Transmitted: Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" Label No. EV699360723US (37 CFR 1.10) (1 pg.) PTO-Form 2038 Charging the amount of \$575 for filing Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and RCE (1 pg.) Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (1 pg.) Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pgs.) PTO-Form 1449 listing thirty-seven (37) references (3 pgs.) Copies of references from applications (29) Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.) Postcard</p>				

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.

11502/26

In Re Application Of: Blatter

APR 27 2006

Application No.

10/624,315

Filing Date

July 21, 2003

Examiner

Leslie R. Deak

Customer No.

32642

Group Art Unit

3761

Confirmation No.

32642

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

**OR**

☒ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
11502/26

In Re Application of: Blatter

Application No. 10/624,315	Filing Date July 21, 2003	Examiner Leslie R. Deak	Customer No. 32642	Group Art Unit 3761	Confirmation No. 32642
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Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-2375 as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.
- ☒ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile\***

I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fa
_____ (Date)
_____ Signature
_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

**Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on
_____ (Date)
_____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence
_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate

\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

  
Signature

Dated: APRIL 27, 2006

Kevin B. Laurence  
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Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
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CC:



Express Mail Label No. EV699360723US

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No.: 11502/26

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
)  
Blatter )  
)  
Serial No.: 10/624,315 ) Art Unit  
) 3761  
Filed: July 21, 2003 )  
)  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING )  
REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS )  
)  
Examiner: Leslie R. Deak )  
)  
Confirmation No.: 7286 )  
)  
Customer No.: 32642 )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

1. Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are presented for the Examiner's consideration.
  - ☐ Copies of listed documents are enclosed. (37 CFR § 1.98(a))
  - ☐ Copies of listed U.S. patent documents are omitted because this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and is, thus, subject to image file wrapper processing.
  - ☒ Copies of listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2))
  - ☐ Copies of the documents listed on sheet(s) \_\_\_\_\_ of Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are omitted because (1) they are already of record in U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, on which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and (2) any information disclosure statement filed in the prosecution of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, complies with 37 CFR §§ 1.98(a) through (c). (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d))

2. ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed copy of copending U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_, which is cited in this application.
3. This information disclosure statement is being submitted (check box a., b., or c.):
- a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. (No statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required.); or
- b. ☐ After the period set forth in paragraph 3a, but before the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (Check box i. or ii.)
- i. ☒ A \$180.00 information disclosure statement submission fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed, or
- ii. ☐ A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below; or
- c. ☒ After the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance and on or before payment of the issue fee. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below. Enclosed is a \$180.00 information disclosure statement processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
4. If a statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required, the attorney or agent signing below hereby states that:
- ☐ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- ☐ no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

5. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in the English language and/or selected documents in the English language is included.

DATED this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of APRIL, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**CUSTOMER NO. 32642**



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 11502/26	APPLICATION NO. 10/624,315
TITLE:      APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS  CONFIRMATION NO.: 3802 CUSTOMER NO.: 32642		APPLICANT - Blatter	
		EXAMINER: Leslie R. Deak	
		FILING DATE- July 21, 2003	GROUP- 3761

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1	6,746,459	06/08/2004	Kato			10/16/2001
	2	2002/00494559	04/25/2002	Kato			10/16/2001
	3	6,214,022	01/10/2001	Taylor et al.			04/28/1999
	4	6,063,114	05/16/2000	Nash, et al.			09/04/1997
	5	4,366,810	01/04/1983	Kaster			11/17/1980
	6	3,991,756	11/16/1976	Synder			08/18/1975
	7	3,853,126	12/10/1974	Schulte			11/15/1973
	8	3,713,441	01/30/1973	Thomas			10/22/1970

### OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	9	Office Action dated 09/20/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 7 pgs.
	10	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 1pg.
	11	Office Action Response dated 12/16/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,315, 19 pgs.
	12	Office Action dated 09/29/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 7 pgs.
	13	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 1 pg.
	14	Office Action Response dated 12/15/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/624,711, 16 pgs.
	15	Office Action dated 01/12/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 2 pgs.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

16	Office Action Response dated 02/10/2006 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 12 pgs.
17	Office Action dated 08/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 5 pgs.
18	Interview Summary from 10/18/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 1 pg.
19	Office Action Response dated 12/16/2005 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/351,172, 21 pgs.
20	Office Action dated 01/29/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 7 pgs.
21	Interview Summary from 06/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 1 pg.
22	Office Action Response dated 07/01/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/481,283 (Patent No. 6,595,941), 13 pgs.
23	Office Action dated 09/25/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 9 pgs.
24	Interview Summary from 11/21/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 1 pg.
25	Office Action Response dated 03/25/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 31 pgs.
26	Office Action dated 06/18/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 4 pgs.
27	Office Action Response dated 06/26/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/760,322 (Patent No. 6,663,590), 2 pgs.
28	Office Action (Election/Restrictions) dated 04/10/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 4 pgs.
29	Response to Restriction Requirement dated 07/10/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964, (Patent No. 6,656,151) 2 pgs.
30	Office Action dated 09/13/2001 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 6 pgs.
31	Office Action Response dated 03/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 8 pgs.
32	Interview Summary from 03/13/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.
33	Final Office Action dated 04/09/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 7 pgs.
34	Final Office Action dated 10/01/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 7 pgs.
35	Interview Summary from 11/21/2002 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.
36	Office Action Response dated 04/01/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 36 pgs.



OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

37

Interview Summary from 05/06/2003 in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/480,964 (Patent No. 6,656,151), 1 pg.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**Customer No. 32642**